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2 December 1964

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# **CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE BULLETIN**

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Cambodia - South Vietnam: Relations between South Vietnam and Cambodia are entering another critical period.

Saigon yesterday warned that it would have to revise its policy if Cambodia enters into a formal agreement with the National Liberation Front, the Communist political arm in South Vietnam. The warning was prompted by current discussion between Cambodian officials and Front representatives looking toward the signing of a border agreement.

Privately, South Vietnamese officials say that they might retaliate by recognizing the Khmer Serei, a motley Cambodian dissident group that has been sustained by covert support of South Vietnam

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Complete closure of the Mekong River to Cambodian traffic is also envisaged.

The border situation continues tense. Small-scale incidents occur almost daily. Sihanouk warned again yesterday that Cambodia would break relations with the US in the event of another "serious" border incident.

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DAILY BRIEF

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**\*South Vietnam:** Tri Quang, Buddhist leader in central Vietnam, is now throwing his weight behind efforts to topple the Huong government.

Quang, who masterminded the Buddhist campaign last year against the Diem regime, has told US officials in Hué that if the entire government of Premier Huong does not resign in the near future, he will oppose it "in many ways." He specifically mentioned demonstrations in Hué which thus far has remained free of anti-Huong agitation.

Quang stated that he was aware of the danger of Viet Cong exploitation of any disturbances in central Vietnam, but he claimed that it would be even more dangerous for the Buddhists to remain inactive against the present regime. He characterized Huong as stupid, anti-Buddhist, and lacking in popular support.

Quang, possibly for tactical reasons, has remained aloof from the active antigovernment campaign of Buddhist leader Tam Chau in Saigon until now. With the entire Buddhist hierarchy now openly arrayed against the government, Huong's prospects appear increasingly shaky.

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Brazil: [Brazil's insistence that Uruguay restrict the activities of Brazilian exiles within its borders is causing a strain in relations between the two countries.]

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[Brazil is bringing pressure on the Uruguayan Government to expel extreme-leftist Leonel Brizola and other subversive leaders and to take other cooperative measures. Brazilian officials are disturbed by evidence of increasing efforts by Brizola and others to organize a guerrilla movement.]

[The exile problem has been heightened by the government's recent discovery of evidence indicating a plot to launch a coordinated wave of terrorism and agitation in several areas of Brazil in connection with the federal intervention in Goias State. More than 200 persons implicated in the plot have been arrested, many of them apparently linked with Brizola and former president Goulart, who is also in Uruguay.]

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DAILY BRIEF

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\*Argentina: (Information as of 0400) Ex-dictator Peron's return to South America has so far brought no serious reaction from the Argentine government or his supporters.

Peron's departure from Madrid was shrouded in such elaborate privacy arrangements that observers were prevented from seeing him emplane.

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The plane carrying Peron and his party arrives in Montevideo this morning and he may go on to Asuncion, Paraguay.

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Peronists in Argentina have been trying to whip up enthusiasm for his return and have been making general plans for it, but there are no indications that any of these are timed to coincide with this trip. The Argentine military are adamantly against his return and it is possible that Peron will go back to Europe after a brief show of flag to demonstrate that he tried to return.

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NOTES

Italy: Foreign Minister Saragat's chief of cabinet has informed the US Embassy that negotiations with Peiping for an exchange of quasi-official trade offices were successfully concluded on 28 November. Although Rome states that the Chinese had raised no political pre-conditions to the present agreement, Peiping has long used the exchange of such permanent nondiplomatic missions as an opening wedge in its drive for broader international acceptance.

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Italy: President Segni's resignation is expected to be announced on or about 4 December, three days before a special medical team must submit its report on his condition. The parliamentary electoral college must be convened within 15 days after either resignation or a declaration of permanent disability. The succession issue is highly divisive both for the Christian Democrats and for the coalition.

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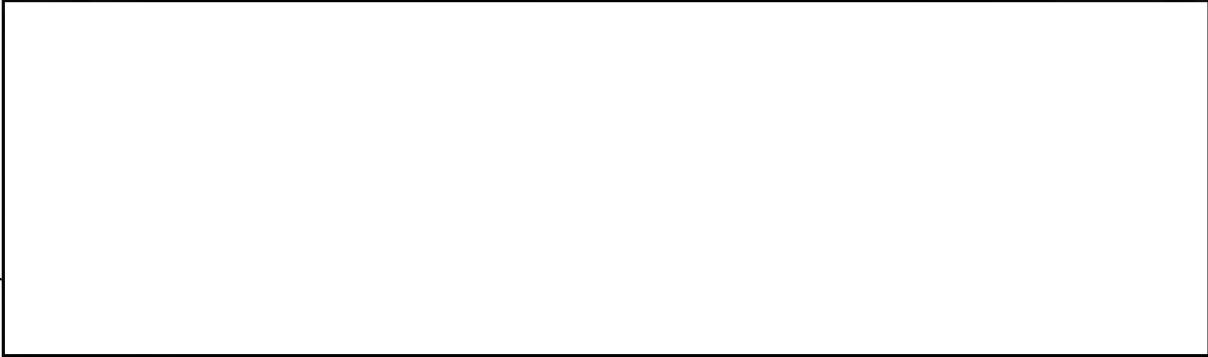
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Turkey: Tensions between the military and the widely popular opposition Justice Party will probably ease as a result of the election of Suleyman Demirel as the party's president-general. Demirel, who now is in line to become Turkey's prime minister if his party wins the elections due by the end of 1965, was the only candidate acceptable to the military high command. Demirel, a 40-year-old engineer, is an astute politician, has a reputation as an able and honest administrator, and has usually taken moderate positions.

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\*Laos: Communist forces appear to be stepping up their pressure in central Laos. On 2 December, a US military attaché in Thakhek reported that enemy forces had moved onto Route 13--the principal north-south road in Laos--at a point about 45 miles northwest of that town. Government forces last weekend had abandoned several positions in that region in the face of increased Pathet Lao activity. Although the threat to Thakhek is not clear, the government is preparing to bring in reinforcements.

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